

Application No.09/734,658
Amendment Under 37 CFR §1.312 filed:
Allowed: May 5, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 are presently active in this case, and stand allowed. Claim 3 has been amended at line 2 to correct a minor informality.

The error in Claim 3 was uncovered during a post-allowance review of the application by the undersigned. The present amendment has therefore been timely filed with diligence. Further, no new issues are raised by the present amendment. Accordingly, entry of the present amendment before issuance is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/03)



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

I:\ATTY\EHK\AMEND-RESPONSES\0039\20s\200889US-312AMT.DOC